Pacific Northwest Museum of Natural History

Museum Member News

1500 E. Main St. Ashland, Oregon (541) 488-1084 July/August 1997

ANNOUNCING NEW EXHIBITS AND EXCITING SUMMER WEEKENDS

Sasquatch Draws Crowds

"Sasquatch: Fact or Fiction"

The Sasquatch exhibit, which invites visitors to use the scientific method to explore the mystery of the existence of bigfoot, continues to prove popular among Museum visitors. It allows visitors to examine footprint casts, video and audio evidence, eyewitness accounts, and the fossil record -- then weigh the evidence.

At the end of the exhibit, visitors are asked to make a choice based on their conclusions -- is there really a Sasquatch or is it simply fiction? Most voters feel that Sasquatch does exist! (It should be noted that fewer than 25% of visitors coming through actually vote.) The exhibit will be at the Museum throughout the summer.

Sasquatch Exhibit
Fact or Fiction Vote
The tally to date is:
Fact-- 608
Fiction -- 257
Undecided --321

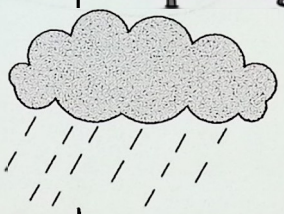
New Flood Exhibit Installed

Do you have family and friends visiting this summer who would like to get a vivid picture of what things looked like back in January during and after the flood? Bring them to see *The New Year's Flood, 1996-97* a new exhibit recently installed in the Museum which features the KOBI Channel 5 program *1997: In Like a Lion.* The exhibit, which features photographs of the flood courtesy of the *Ashland Daily Tidings,* follows the story of the regional rainstorms including the flooding of Ashland's downtown Plaza and the on-going cleanup efforts.

The photographs and video illustrate what many people experienced first hand -- the power of water and its ability to devastate anything in its path. Residents suddenly found themselves without what many of us take for granted every day -- drinkable water and the use of indoor plumbing.

This temporary exhibit will be on display in the Museum's lobby this summer.

Weather Station Opening Mid-July!



Are you ready to "weather the weather whatever the weather, whether you like it or not"? The Museum's new weather station is sure to help budding meteorologists understand the Rogue Valley's weather patterns and appreciate the media forecasts.

The station will be a permanent exhibit near the Alpine area in the main hall. It will feature a scanning display of inside and outside temperatures, relative humidity, dew point, rainfall, the barometric pressure, and wind speed and direction. A computer terminal will give a daily bulletin of high and low temperatures, high wind speed, and other weather aspects. The station also includes weather records from the previous six months.

Museum Summer Hours
Open DAILY 10 am - 5 pm

Visit our Web Site
www.projecta.com/nwmuseum

Butterfly Days August 9 & 10

Let a butterfly land on your finger or maybe even sit on the tip of your nose! **The 3rd Annual Butterfly Days** will offer Museum visitors another rare opportunity to learn more about butterflies and enjoy them in the Museum's butterfly vivarium (an outside walk-through enclosure). **Special displays and events run from 11:00 am – 4:00 pm on both Saturday & Sunday, August 9 & 10.**

The butterflies, provided by Paul and Vicky Runquist of ***Monarch Magic* in Ashland,** will include Monarchs and other species. All events are included in Museum admission.

Saturday & Sunday
11:00 am -4:00 pm

Butterfly Vivarium open
Butterfly collections on display
Butterfly crafts for kids

- **Saturday, August 9th at 2:00 pm: *"Flowers that Fly,"* a presentation by Paul Runquist, of *Monarch Magic*.**
- **Sunday, August 10th at 3:00 pm: Mass release of tagged butterflies**

Volunteers Needed

The Museum still needs volunteers! Summer hours have started and that means we need people seven days each week from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. If you have a few hours per month, need to get out of the summer heat for a while, and enjoy visiting with tourists, please call Diann at 488-1084. She will be delighted to arrange for training.

Release Your "Own" Butterfly!

This year during Butterfly Days visitors may sponsor a tagged monarch butterfly which they will personally release during **the mass release on Sunday, August 10th.** This is a wonderful opportunity to honor a special friend or family member or to provide an exciting and educational experience for your child. Sponsorship is $5.00 per butterfly. A portion of the sponsorship fee will be used to finance Monarch migration studies and another portion will support the Museum's education programs.

Each sponsor will be assigned a Monarch with a specific tag identification number, which will allow us to notify the sponsor if that butterfly is ever recovered and reported. Fifty butterflies are available and waiting for sponsors!

To sponsor a Monarch, send your name, address, and phone number, plus $5.00 per butterfly, to: **Sponsor-a-Butterfly, Pacific Northwest Museum of Natural History, 1500 East Main Street, Ashland, Oregon 97520.** If you are sponsoring the butterfly in honor of a child or someone else, be sure to include his or her name in your letter. **Requests must be received by August 1st!**

Hands-on Booths at Fair & Children's Festival!

The Museum and its fleet of tireless volunteers will be at both the **Children's Festival in Jacksonville, July 13-15 and at the Jackson County Fair on July 15-20.** We will be providing exciting hands-on activities for everyone! Stop by and join the fun!

In Memory of Joyce Baldwin

Volunteer Joyce Baldwin passed away on June 21st after battling cancer for several months. She was one of our Greeters and always seemed to have a smile and a pleasant word for visitors. She was a "newcomer" to the Ashland area, but that didn't stop her from becoming totally devoted to the Museum and our volunteer program. Joyce's family sent a memorial poem which seems fitting to Joyce's reverence as she went about her work at the Museum. Here is an excerpt:

When I come to the end of the road and the sun has set for me,

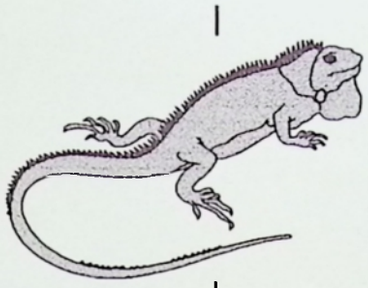
I want no rites in a gloom-filled room. Why cry for a soul set free?

Chalk Art Festival A Huge Success!

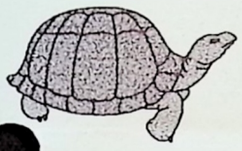
Hopefully, you and your family were among the 2,000 to 3,000 visitors who enjoyed the **Chalk Art Festival held June 6, 7, and 8th** on the Museum's plaza. The event featured nationally-renowned street painter **Rod Tryon,** as well as 17 other professional artists. There were 4 student art groups and 150-175 other individuals and families who joined the artists to produce an incredible display of masterpieces.

A special thank-you to **Event Coordinator Jeff Jones** who carried through with his vision to have this event at the Museum. Call the Museum if you are interested in helping with the 1998 Chalk Art Festival!

Leapin' Lizards . . it's Reptile Weekend!



From alligators to box turtles, iguanas to pythons . . . if you're a fan of the scaly set or someone who's a bit reptile-phobic but interested in overcoming your fears, this is the event for you! Visit the Museum **Saturday and Sunday, August 30th and 31st** for our 3rd annual "Reptile Weekend." Both days will feature live animal programs, videos, displays, and last year's big hit -- the turtle race. All activities are free for members and included in regular Museum admission for non-members.



Reptile Weekend Schedule
Saturday & Sunday

11:00 am – 5:00 pm
Reptile displays and collections

11:00 am Live Animal Program: "Turtles"

Noon The Famous Turtle Race!

1:30 pm Live Animal Program: "Snakes"

2:30 pm Video: "Eyewitness: Reptile"

3:00 pm Live Animal Program: "Lizards & Crocodiles"

4:00 pm Video: "Bill Nye: Reptiles"

Memorial Scholarship Announced

The Volunteer Auxiliary Board has been developing a scholarship fund which started with the donations made in memory of Volunteer Robert Stebbings. The scholarship fund is now at $525.00. The Auxiliary Board hopes that the fund will continue to grow from members and others who wish to donate to an educational endowment fund. The Volunteer Auxiliary Board would award a $500.00 scholarship each spring, beginning in 1998, toward tuition at SOU. The award will go to a graduating high school senior whose interest is in earth or life sciences. The student or his/her family must be members of the museum. Additional criteria will be available next spring.

If you would like to make a contribution to the Volunteer Memorial Scholarship fund, please make checks payable to Pacific Northwest Museum of Natural History, Volunteer Memorial Scholarship Fund, 1500 East Main Street, Ashland, OR 97520.

Museum Ventures to Tour Wildlife Safari

We're going back! By popular demand, the "Museum Ventures" tour will leave the Museum parking lot at **9:00 am on Thursday, July 24** in a van headed for Wildlife Safari in Winston, Oregon. **We will return from our day trip at 6:00 pm.** Wildlife Safari, a 600-acre reserve, features exotic animals roaming within large, open enclosures much as they would in the wild.

The Wildlife Safari staff members have offered, if circumstances allow, a behind-the-scenes tour during our visit. Tour participants over the age of 12 will also have a very special and exciting opportunity to take a walking tour with the keepers inside the cheetah compound. This 'lightly strenuous' walk will last about an hour and will offer excellent views and photo opportunities. Children 12 and under cannot go on the walking tour for safety reasons and will enjoy some special activities while they await our return.

Tickets, which are limited, include transportation, admission fees, and a breakfast snack en route. Participants should bring money for lunch at the White Rhino restaurant.

Ticket Fees

Member:
$35.00 Adult/Senior
$20.00 Children (6-12)

Non-Member:

$39.00 Adult/Senior
$24.00 Children (6-12)

Reservation Deadline July 21, 1997

You may purchase tickets at the Museum or by phone with your credit card. Please call (541) 488-1084.

July

Sasquatch Exhibit
Hall of Changing Exhibits

Children's Festival in Jacksonville!
July 13-15, 1997

Jackson County Fair!
July 15-20, 1997

Hands-on Activities
Adventures in Learning

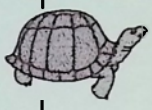
Museum Ventures
Trip to Wildlife Safari
July 24, 1997

Aug

Butterfly Days
August 9 & 10, 1997

Butterfly Enclosure
Live Butterflies
Special Activities & Speakers
Tag & Release

Reptile Weekend
August 30 & 31, 1997



Live Animal Programs
Turtle Race
Video Presentations
Reptile Displays

Sept

Harvest Festival

More Details Coming Soon!

Visit our Web Site for a Calendar of Events

www.projecta.com/nwmuseum

PACIFIC NORTHWEST MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
1500 E. Main Street, Ashland, Or. 97520

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THE HANDICAPPED
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Eagle Point Historical Society
PO Box 201
Eagle Point, OR 97524